

# KA6U EME Roving

2020 - 2024

Ka6u.blogspot.com



# W5LUA Al Ward – 33cm WAS #1



# N9LHS – Linda 23cm WAS #20 – In Eight Months



# KA6U – Peter Van Horne

- Licensed in 1967 – Age 11
- 90+ % CW operations until 2019
- Started roving in 2016 – National Parks on the Air
  - ~ 10,000 QSOs from over 140 locations
- Started EME in 2019
  - First EME QSO November 2019 2M
- Started EME roving in 2020
  - Activated approximately 100 grids using 2M EME
  - 5 Major roving trips across US each 6000+ miles
  - Many “shorter trips” 2000 miles or less
  - ~ 4000 EME QSOs since 2020
- Current residence Ruskin, Florida
- Escaped California in late 2020

# EME Roving QSOs

- 2M – 3300 QSOs 90+ US Grids
- 222 Mhz – 200 QSOs
- 70 cm – 700 QSOs
- 902 Mhz – 500 QSOs
- 23cm – 1500 QSOs

# EME Operations

- Portable operations from my car
- Multiple bands
  - 2M – KW 2x10HV antennas
  - 222 – KW 2x16 manually rotated
  - 70cm – 700W 2x21HV
  - 33cm – 600W 2.4M dish
  - 23cm – 600W 2.4M dish
- Two ICOM 705 as excitors
- Transverters for 222, 33cm, 23cm
- Focus – rapid setup and teardown
- Currently – Started rove on July 5, 2024 expect to complete on August 15

# EME Focus Since 2021- WAS

- Help operators achieve WAS
- New WAS awards completed with states contributed by KA6U roves
  - 222: + 8 (11 to 19 total)
  - 70cm: +14 (24 to 38 total) + DL1VPL July 28, 2024
  - 33cm: + 4 (0 to 4)
  - 23cm: + 23 (3 to 26)
- Activated 45 states in CONUS
- 70,000 miles on the road 2021 - 2024

# October 23, 2023 – W5LUA 902 WAS #1

- W5LUA Al told me he needed 17 states to complete 902 WAS
- I planned an October 2023 rove to help Al get 13 states in east/central US
- During the trip I decided to add a western excursion to visit the 4 western states Al needed
  - EME station was working well
  - Weather in Idaho in mid-October in the 70's!
  - I drove from Midwest to MT/ND border
  - Down back of Rocky Mountains
  - Back to Wisconsin for state #50
  - South to K5QE for EME contest

# October 2023 Rove Summary

- 26 states visited
  - NC, SC, WV, VA, MD, DE, PA, NJ, RI, CT, MA, VT, NH, ME, NY, OH, IN, MI, ND, MT, WY, UT, ID, NV, SD, WI
- 21 days of activations
- 270 902 EME QSOs
- Two states activated in one day at several stops
- Three states activated in one day (IN, OH, MI)
- 10,000 road miles

# Why? - Southeast Montana Prairie



# Near WA OR Border



# Roving Vehicle – 2012 Ford Explorer (3<sup>rd</sup> one)



- 250,000 miles
- (70,000 EME miles)
- Backseat removed
- Roof rack for 4 yagis
- EME Bands
  - 2M, 222, 70cm, 33cm, 23cm
- 500W+ on all bands
- Run 2 bands simultaneously

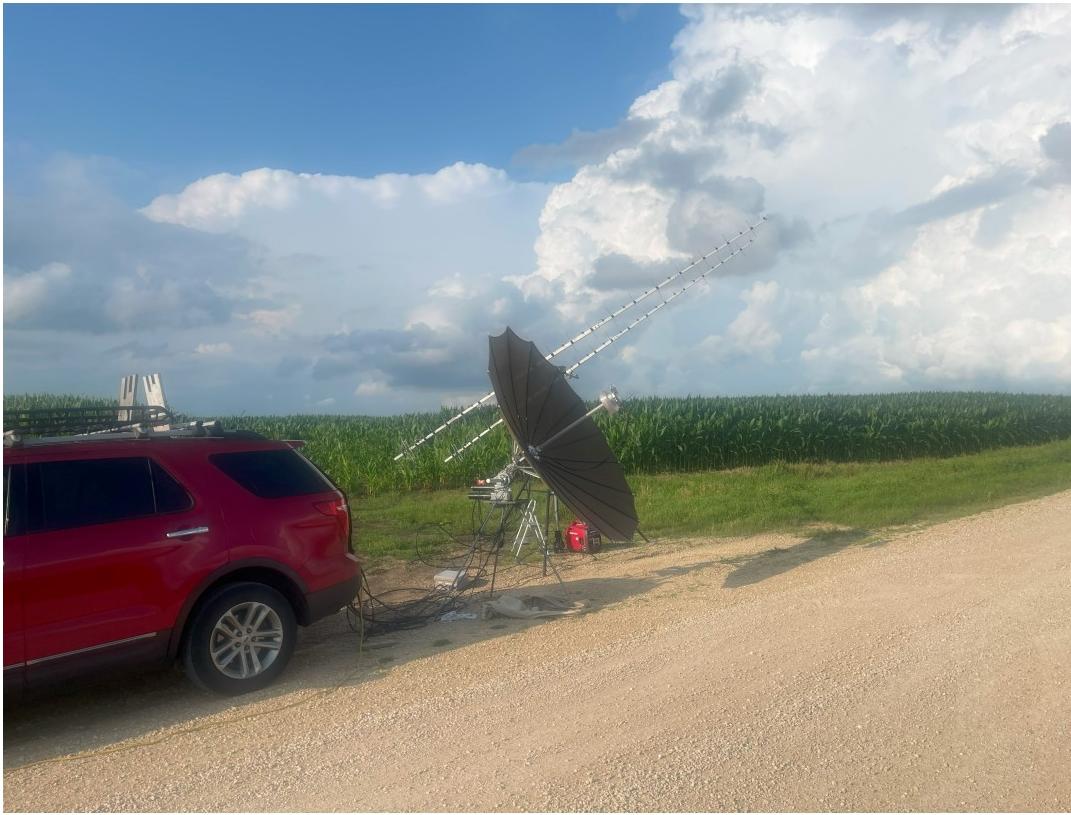
# Organization Enables Fast Setup/Teardown



**902 EME Operations**  
**15 minutes setup on the Moon**  
**10 minutes pack and go**

**70cm EME Operations**  
**20 minutes setup**  
**15 minutes pack and go**

# Typical Rural Roadside Setup



**Dirt roads and  
cornfields are good for  
EME**

# Park and Ride Lots – CT/RI Border



**Setup in CT  
RI is the other side of trees  
Moving from CT to RI ~ 70  
minutes**

# Unusual Sights – Legend Valley, Ohio



Yes that is a full-size  
Brachiosaurus

# 23 and 70cm Operation at Moonrise



# Winter 222 Activation in Indiana



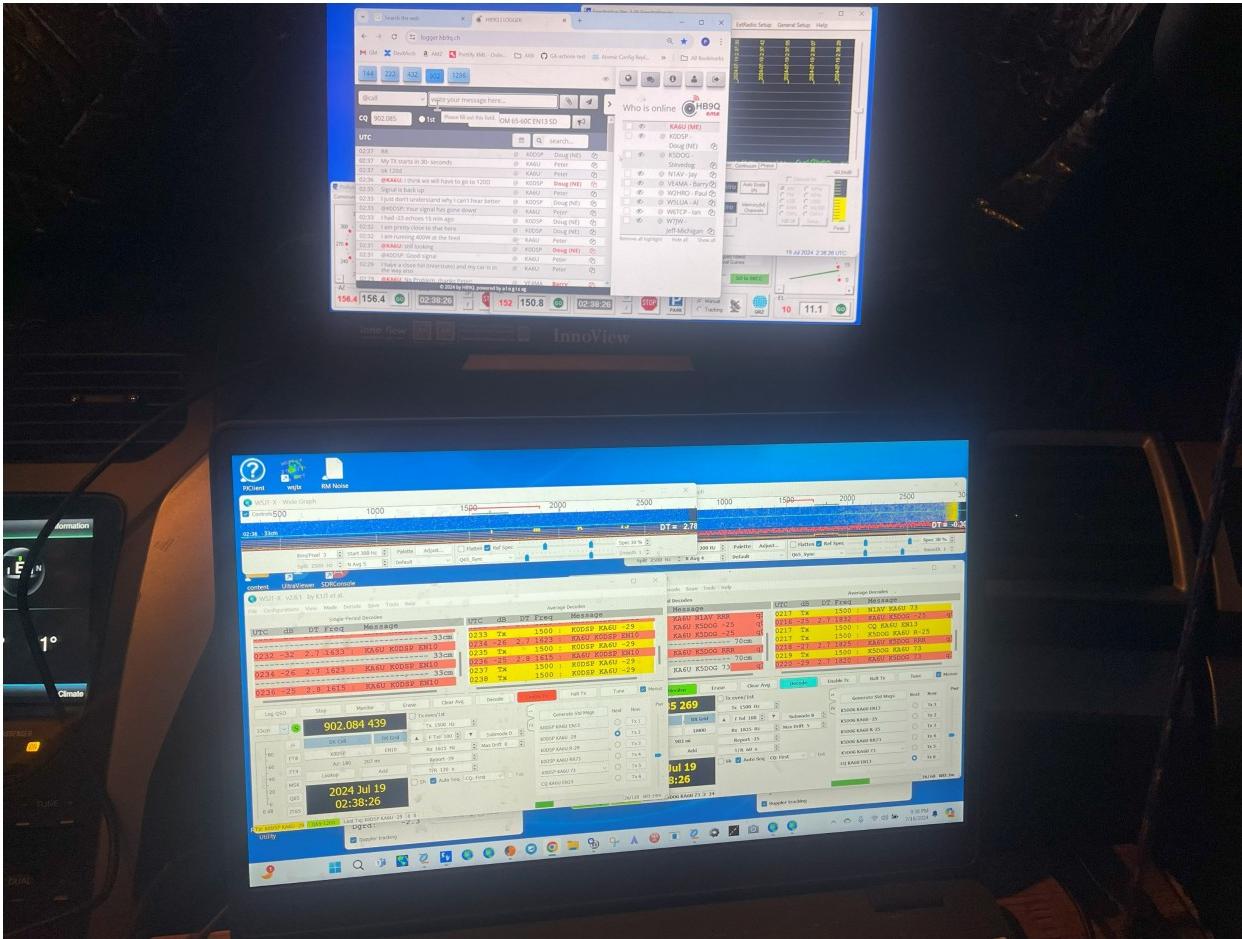
# Vermont in November 15 degrees



# Operation Location in Car



# Station - Displays



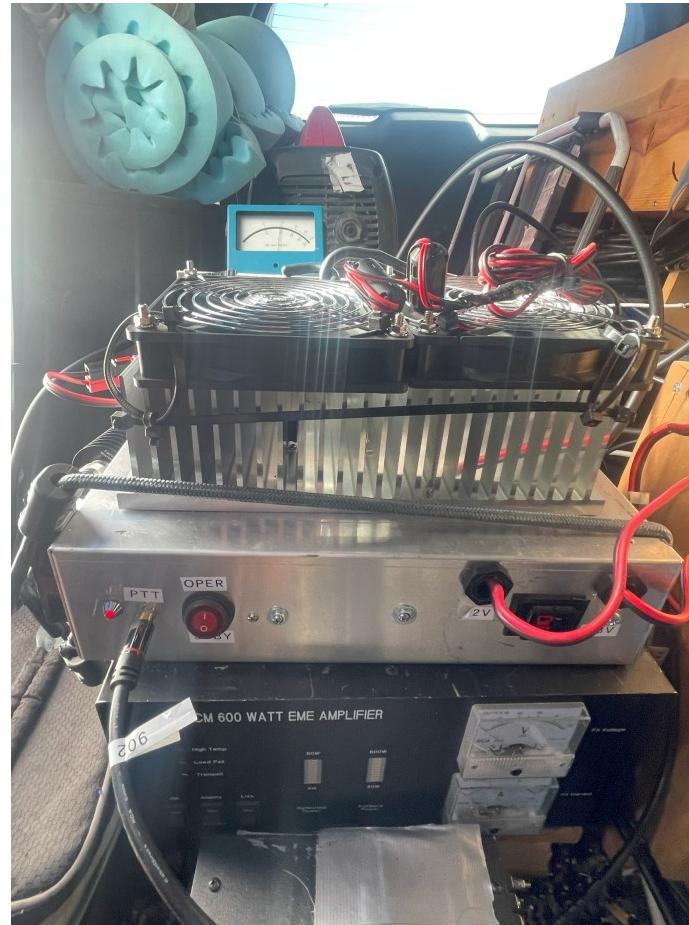
# Station - Two ICOM-705s



# Station - Forced Air Cooling

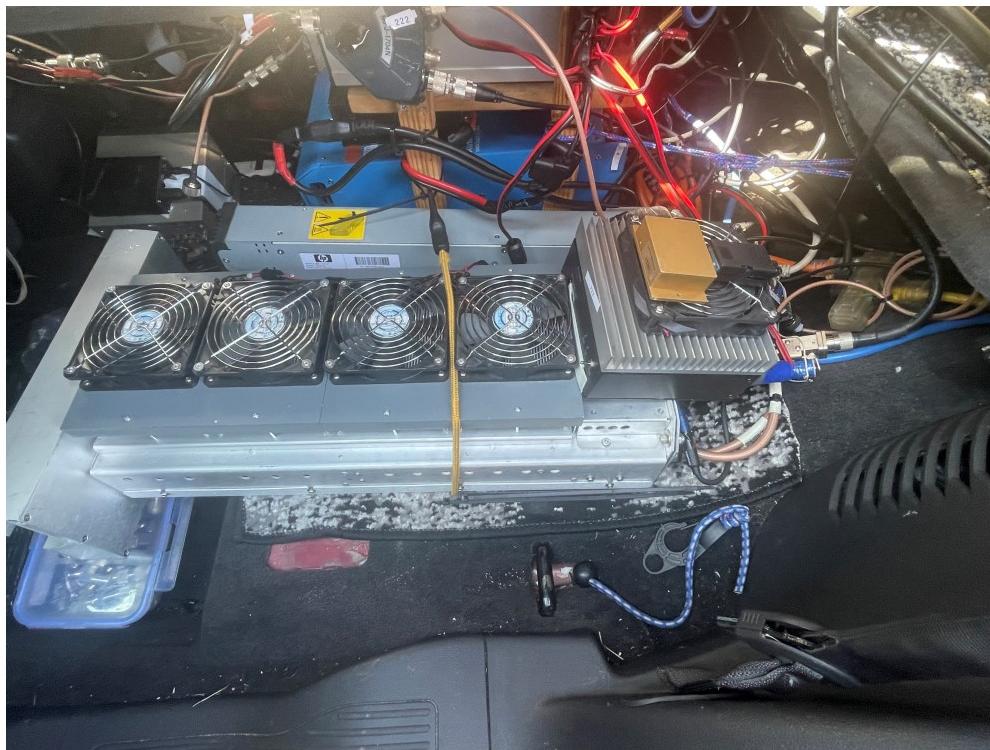


# Amplifiers – 902 and 23cm



# Amplifiers – Being Heard

**1KW 222**



**500W 23cm 70cm**



# Quiet Operating Locations



# Noise is the Enemy - Spectravue

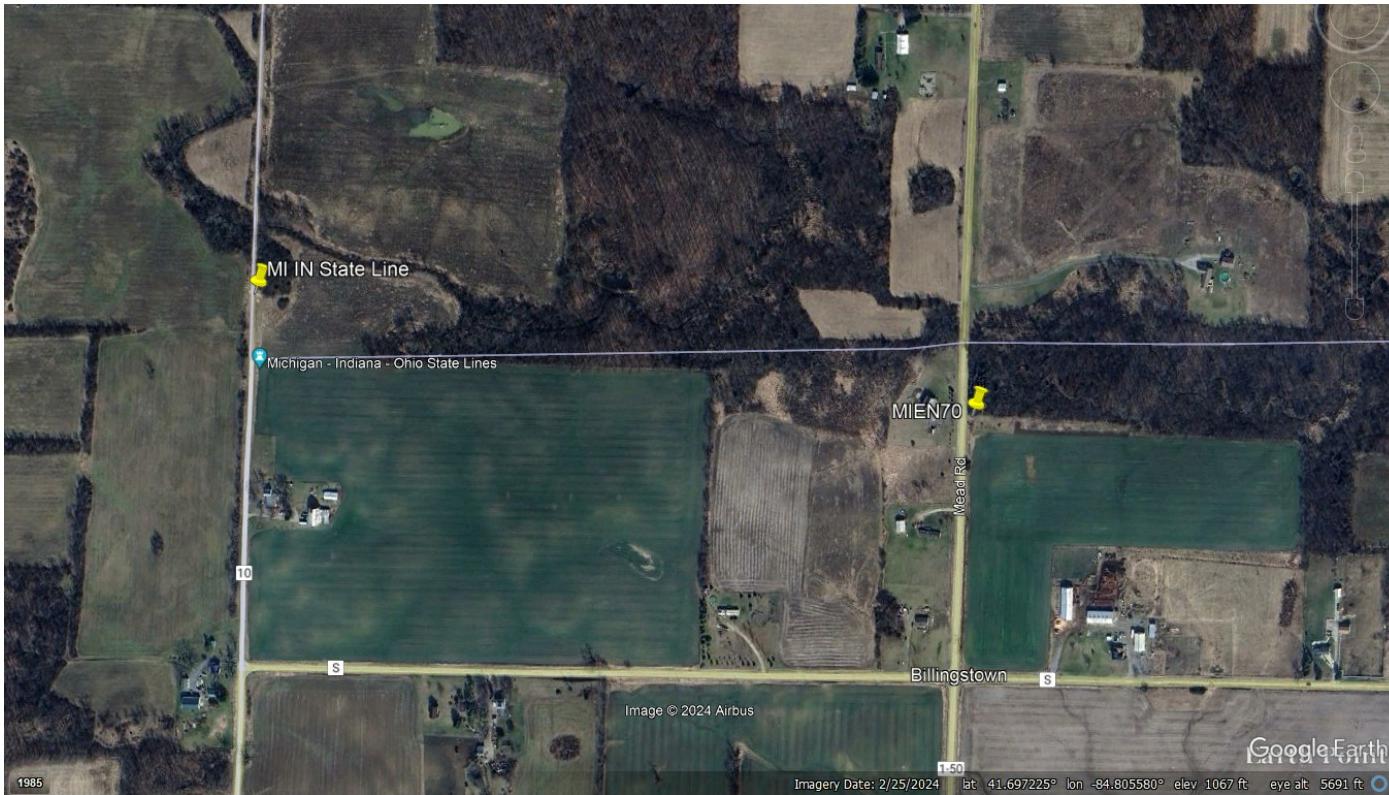


Roving station is receive limited

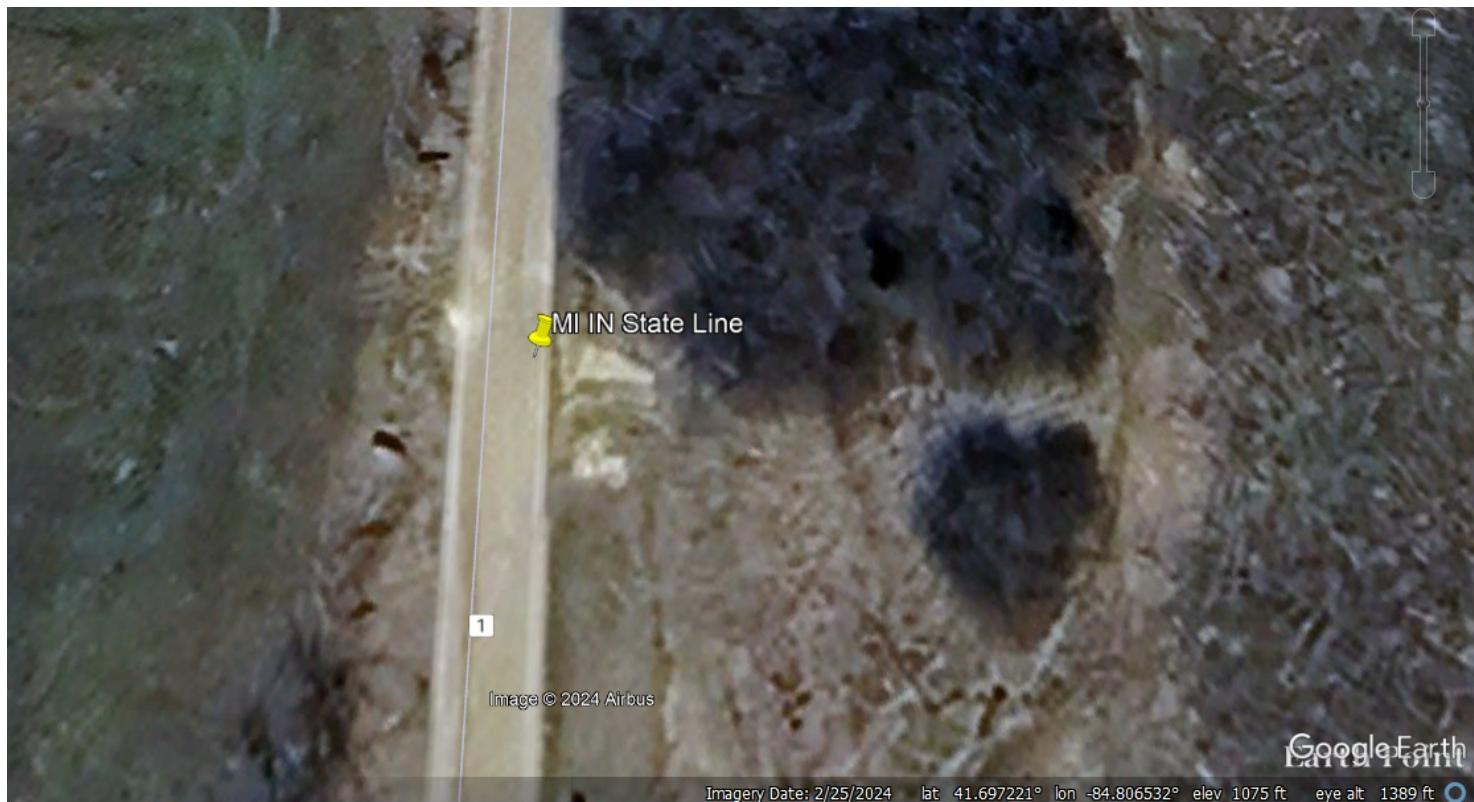
# Google Earth - Finding Locations – MS/AL Border



# MI/IN/OH Border Area



# Michigan/Indiana Border Close-up



# Indiana



# Michigan



# Testing Station in EL87 Florida



# What's Next?

- In 5<sup>th</sup> week of 7 week roving trip started on July 5, 2024
- Help several operators complete WAS
  - 70cm – 3 ops with 3 states or less on my path
  - 23cm – 2 ops with 2 states or less on my path
- Complete activation of 25+ states on 902 this trip
- Complete activation of 25+ states on 70cm this trip
- Return to Florida by August 20
- Future - ????